London Mission
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Volume 54 : July-Sept 2010

A RAINBOW OF COLOURS FOR **NOTTINGHILL CARNIVAL**

Photo: Donald M. Chambers

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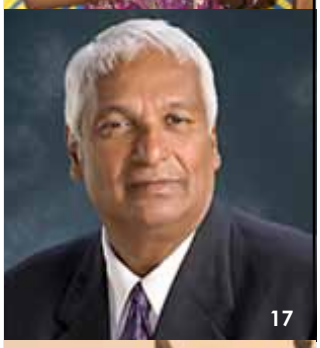

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The High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, London
42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT
TEL: 020 7245 9351
FAX: 020 7823 1065
EMAIL: tthc@btconnect.com

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Acting High Commissioner Ms. Roanna Gopaul,
EDITOR
Former Deputy High Commissioner Ms. Gail P. Guy
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Ms. Bianca Walker
Mr. Lawson C. Lovell
PROOFING TEAM
Mr. Lawson C. Lovell
Mrs. Beverley Reviero-Awonaya,
Second Secretary Ms. Nickesha Smith,
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Ms. Alafair Celestine
Mr. Lawson C. Lovell
Mr. Kerion Victor Perez
LAYOUT AND DESIGN
Mr. Lawson C. Lovell
PRINTING
Public Affairs, Culture and Tourism Department of The High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, London.

Message from H.E President George Maxwell Richards on the Occasion of Emancipation Day 2010

On the occasion of Emancipation Day 2010, I send greetings to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, as we consider what this day means to us.

By Legal Notice 147 of 15th October, 1984 and in accordance with Section 4 of the Public Holidays and Festivals Act, Discovery Day, which was celebrated in Trinidad and Tobago, on 1st August, each year, was changed to Emancipation Day.

Ours has been described as a free, democratic society and, in many ways, it is so. However, the celebration of Emancipation Day is a time to consider to what extent we are indeed free and where we are, as individuals and collectively, in the process of emancipating ourselves, especially in the way we think, for no one can really declare us free. Adlai Stevenson is reported to have said that "A free society is one where it is safe to be unpopular".

His Excellency President George Maxwell Richards TC, CMT, Ph. D, President of The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

> We should not take lightly the courage with which they faced the early days of Emancipation and continuing, as they, women side by side with men, laid foundations on which our Independence would eventually be built.

There was considerable support for the view that, while we acknowledge the history of the European presence in our country, specifically, the arrival of Christopher Columbus here, 1st August should be commemorated, as a most significant date in history, in another way, for it was on that date in 1838, that African slaves finally received their freedom, as the edict of 1834, which declared that freedom, was not fully implemented, until then. Trinidad and Tobago, in declaring Emancipation Day a public holiday, took a lead that some of our neighbours in the region, including Guyana, have followed.

The journey from 1838 until now has not been an easy one, as we are well aware, and history records the facts that have contributed to making us the people that we are. We need to remind ourselves or inform ourselves of them, if we are to take the best and most appropriate steps forward, as we grow as an independent nation.

Fellow citizens, this is a good time to ask ourselves where we stand on that opinion. Another insight on freedom, as it concerns our state of wellbeing, comes to us from Thucydides the Athenian historian born in the 5th century B.C., who tells us that "The secret of happiness is freedom and the secret of freedom is courage". From the perspective of one who himself experienced exile, that is a deep saying. Freedom is not licence or disorder, nor is courage bravado, particularly when it signals intimidation, from whatever quarter and in whatever manner.

The freedom for which the ancestors fought went beyond an official declaration, made at a time when it was no longer convenient to be a slave owner. We should not take lightly the courage with which they faced the early days of Emancipation and continuing, as they, women side by side with men, laid foundations on which our Independence would eventually be built. Out of respect for what they have done, we have a duty to preserve independence of mind and guard the freedoms which we have gained, over time, pre and post Independence, including those of our institutions.

In that vein, I recall the observation attributed to Baron de Montesquieu: "A nation may lose its liberties in a day and not miss them in a century".

Let us, on this Emancipation Day 2010, a celebration for all of us who hold Trinidad and Tobago dear, resolve to consider, more carefully, the freedoms that were bought with a great price and to position ourselves, particularly our youth, to guard them resolutely, in the secure knowledge that each one of us has a contribution to make to our country's development. Let no one tell us otherwise.

May God bless our nation.

George Maxwell Richards

Acting President Timothy Hamel-Smith

President's Message to the Nation on the Occasion of Republic Day 2010

Fellow Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago

Tomorrow, we celebrate Republic Day, thirty-four years after we took this important step to consolidate our political independence among the family of nations.

This is a time for each of us to reflect on what it means to be a citizen of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago; a time to renew our commitment to those values which bind us together; a time for us to celebrate our identity as Trinbagonians.

On our journey from Independence through Republicanism there is much that we have achieved and accomplished. The preservation of our democratic traditions and institutions through multiple transitions of government by free and fair elections is one such outstanding achievement, particularly when considered in the context of our multi-ethnic society. I believe that our shared values constitute the glue which promotes racial harmony in our Society without which Trinidad and Tobago could so easily have been torn apart by ethnic division. We deserve to applaud ourselves for this accomplishment which we so often take for granted.

Indeed we all share a sense that Trinidad and Tobago is blessed with an abundance of potential which if maximized can lead to greatness. Regrettably we are under-performing to an alarming degree, or as the young people would say "big time", and I fear that if we continue to bury our talent it will be taken from us. For Trinidad and Tobago to flourish, each one of us must optimize our potential - Each of our individual lights must shine across the land, so that together these million points of light will expel the darkness which threatens to overwhelm us.

Only recently Chief Justice Ivor Archie drew to our attention the fact that there are significant elements of our national culture (bad habits really) which we need to change if we are to advance as a Nation. In doing so, the Chief Justice lamented that we appear to be striving for mediocrity rather than excellence.

And so we must ask ourselves "Who are we as Trinbagonians? What are the values that define us as a people? Where does our native genius lie?"

To me, it seems as though as a people we feel alienated from this beautiful land of ours. We appear to lack a sense of belonging. Perhaps it is because we lack this sense of rootedness, sometimes we seem to give ourselves permission to "mash up de place" and negativity stalks our land.

I believe that by changing our attitudes we can transform our own lives and the life of our nation. Indeed at critical and sometimes difficult moments in my own life I have found that the sentiments expressed in the following quotation from Charles Swindoll, which resonate deeply with me, have helped me to overcome personal challenges. I quote

"*The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life.*

Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company…a church…a home…(and I dare say a nation).

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace that day. We cannot change our past… we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude…I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it.

And so it is with you…we are in charge of our attitudes."

I believe that we must change our attitudes. We must develop a sense of patriotism in order to advance the cause of mother Trinidad and Tobago. After God and family, our primary commitment must be to our Nation. We must move beyond simply aligning ourselves to a political party, or on the basis of ethnicity or geographical location. We must recognize that we are one nation, one people set apart in this space we call Trinidad and Tobago.

I believe that this feeling of inclusiveness, of rootedness in

this place, can be fostered by an awareness that each of us can contribute to its development, each of us can contribute to our Nation and to our communities. When we make this connection we will come to recognise that we are indeed an essential part of a greater whole, that Trinidad and Tobago needs each one of us, that together we make up the Trinbagonian Family. At this point our very diversity will become our greatest strength.

What then are the values we cherish, the ideals which we as a people regard most highly? I suggest these include family and relationships, joy of living, spirituality and religious belief, a forgiving heart, risk-taking, ingenuity, racial harmony, generosity and multiculturalism. We must hold fast to our values and ideals which will help to sustain and identify us as Trinbagonians while vigilantly ensuring that they are not so distorted as to become vices.

Let us rejoice then in the common values we share so that we can establish the bond of patriotism and love of country that are so sorely needed for national development. Let us foster a sense of true belonging. Let us each commit to Trinidad and Tobago on this our Republic Day.

Then we can justly proclaim the words of our National Anthem:

"*Side by side we stand*
Islands of the blue Caribbean sea
This our native land we pledge our lives to thee
Here every creed and race find an equal place
And may God bless our nation"

These are some of the things that I invite us all to ponder, as we celebrate Republic Day 2010 and thank Almighty God for the many blessings bestowed on us.
In closing, I extend my best wishes to you all, the Citizens of our beloved Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and all others who are living among us or visiting.

May God bless our nation!

His Excellency President Richards out of the country until October 1, 2010

His Excellency Professor George Maxwell Richards TC, CMT, Ph.D, accompanied by Her Excellency Dr. Jean Ramjohn-Richards, was be out of the country, on personal business, from Wednesday 1st September, 2010 and returned on Saturday 2nd October, 2010.

President of the Senate, Senator Timothy Hamel-Smith, served as Acting President of the Republic.

Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar attends Special CARICOM Meeting in New York

On 26th September, 2010 Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar met in with several of her CARICOM Colleagues in New York to continue discussions on the issue of a new governance structure which she started in Jamaica.

The meeting was chaired by CARICOM Chairman, the Honourable Bruce Golding, Prime Minister of Jamaica.

Leaders discussed the latest refinement of a paper developed by a team headed by Professor Vaughan Lewis which calls for the establishment of a permanent council of ambassadors or special representatives, who will act as an executing body to implement decisions made by the Heads of Government.

This has plagued the effectiveness of regional integration for decades, and the permanent council is just the latest attempt at finding solutions to the problem.

Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar sought clarification from other heads on whether or not they were seeking to delay a decision taken to adopt the position accepted last month, at a meeting in Grenada.

Leaders said, however, that they agreed in principle with the new proposed structure, and took a decision to mandate the CARICOM legal affairs unit to develop a formal plan as to how it could be incorporated into the current structure.

The leaders then decided to have further discussions on this matter when they meet again in Grenada, at the next CARICOM Intersessional Meeting, February 2011.

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar in New York for 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar on September 21, 2010 left for New York to the 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly. The Prime Minister was accompanied by a delegation of Ministers and officials from the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Minister of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development Errol McLeod was appointed to act as Prime Minister during Persad-Bissessar's absence.

Message from Prime Minister the Hon. Kamla Persad-Bissessar on the Occasion of EID UL FITR 2010

Assalam–O–Alaikum

On this joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, I bring greetings to our Muslim community on behalf of the Government and people of Trinidad and Tobago. "May the blessings of Almighty Allah be showered upon you and grace your homes with peace, warmth and love".

For Muslims worldwide, Eid is an auspicious festival characterized by a renewal of faith, camaraderie, commitment to family and community and forgiveness of sins and enmity.

Over the past month, during the observance of Ramadan, our Muslim brothers and sisters have honoured their obligation to fast, practise austerity, offer prayers and perform acts of charity. Today with the breaking of the fast, it is time to celebrate victory over self-control and give thanks for strength, health and the opportunities of life. The Eid day brings happiness, unity and the knowledge that true joy comes from our ability to alleviate the suffering of our needy brothers and sisters.

As we join our Muslim community in observing Eid-ul-Fitr, let us pledge to continue to demonstrate the spirit of tolerance and understanding that rests within the hearts of the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

To our Muslim brothers and sisters it is my prayer that Almighty Allah blesses your home with happiness, your heart with devotion and your soul with purity.

(above) The Hon. Kamla Persad-Bissessar, Prime Minister

> "The Eid day brings happiness, unity and the knowledge that true joy comes from our ability to alleviate the suffering of our needy brothers and sisters."

Minister of Foreign Affairs meets with Inter-American Development Bank President

Dr. the Hon. Surujrattan Rambachan, Minister of Foreign Affairs met on 26 September, 2010 with Luis Alberto Moreno, President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), At the meeting which took place shortly after the lunch break on opening day of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Minister Rambachan praised the Washington-based multilateral bank, for what he said was "the flexibility" with which it sought to make its resources available to developing countries such as Trinidad and Tobago.

In return, Mr. Moreno said how impressed he was by the efforts being spearheaded by Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and the government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago concerning some of the country's on-going development initiatives. "We are very pleased with our work there," the IDB President said, speaking particularly about the community and educational development programmes being pursued by the administration.

Mr. Moreno also announced that the Bank was in the process of hiring a number of International Educational Specialists, who will be placed in some of its country offices, including the one in Port of Spain. Speaking about the government's poverty reduction programme through its education policies, Minister Rambachan said it was "an ambitious but not unrealisable" programme, thanking the IDB for its support in this regard.

He expressed the fervent hope that the country could continue to depend on the level of support it was now receiving. Also expressing his high regard for the Prime Minister, given what he said was "the pace at which she continues to push" on the development agenda, he said he was "looking forward to meeting with her". "I called her the moment she was elected, and we are very encouraged by what she is doing," he said, expressing satisfaction with the state of the country's macro-economic fundamentals. ▸▸

The IDB President and Minister Rambachan also discussed some of the other challenges facing Trinidad and Tobago and other countries in the region, including that of crime and security. In this regard, he said the Bank would continue to support the country's efforts to develop "soft approach, social investments" while at the same time the government must press ahead with other direct crime fighting measures. Mr. Moreno also expressed his wish to pay a visit to Trinidad and Tobago in the near future.

Lord Learie Constantine Honoured with Blue Plaque

On Tuesday 21st September, 2010, exactly 109 years to the very day Britain's first African Caribbean peer was born, a blue plaque in honour of Lord Learie Constantine was unveiled at his former home at Kendal Court, Camden, London NW2.

The plaque was unveiled at 3pm by Acting High Commissioner for the Republic Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Gail P. Guy, Councillor Abdul Quadir – Deputy Leader of Camden Council, and Jak Beula, Chair of Nubian Jak Community Trust.

Lord Learie Constantine was a giant among men, a true renaissance man who trail blazed a path very few would dare to even dream about. Born in Trinidad on 21st September 1901, in the northwestern town of Diego Martin, he went on to become a West Indies cricket legend. In 1930, against England, he bowled the side to their first ever win in a Test series. As a dashing all-rounder he starred in the Lancashire Cricket League before the Second World War. He authored a number of books including the groundbreaking Cricket and I (1933) and The Colour Bar (1954), both with the help of Trinidadian compatriot CLR James. Constantine became a broadcaster for the BBC during WW2, and was given the responsiblity of encouraging African Caribbean soldiers to subscribe to the war effort through his transatlantic radio broadcasts. He later became a barrister, diplomat, politician and international statesman. Indeed, he is also credited with helping to change race relations legislation in the UK. In 1969, he became the first person of African descent to be given a life peerage in Britain. He passed away on 1st July 1971 at the age of 69.

The commemorative blue plaque was installed by the Nubian Jak Community Trust, in association with the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, Camden Council, and the Residents Association of Kendal Court.

The unveiling was followed by a gala reception at Learie Constantine Centre in Willesden/Brent, 43-47 Dudden Hill Lane, Church End, London.

Quotes:

1. Acting High Commissioner for the Republic Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Gail P. Guy said: "In the one life, Sir Learie was a cricketer of note, a politician who participated in the birth of a new nation, a diplomat par excellence and the first High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago in London, a broadcaster and a Governor of the BBC. Many of us would be pleased to have done only a small part of what Sir Learie achieved in his lifetime. We are justifiably proud of this Trinidad and Tobago hero who we shared with the world and the cricketing fraternity."

2. Jak Beula, Chair of the Nubian Jak Community Trust said: "It's truly satisfying to see someone whose contribution to modern Britain is now included in the schools national curriculum, and is gaining increasing recognition amongst the general public. It is entirely appropriate that Lord Learie Constantine should be honoured with a commemorative plaque at his former London home, on the day of his birth."

3. Councillor Abdul Quadir, Deputy Leader of Camden Council said,: "I'm very proud to be able to represent Camden at the unveiling of this commemorative plaque to recognise the achievements of Lord Learie. This plaque will continue to be a very important landmark in the borough. On behalf of Camden I would like to thank the Nubian Jak Community Trust, in association with the Trinidad & Tobago High Commission and the Residents Association of Kendal Court for their hard work in making this happen."

His Excellency Edwin Carrington, Secretary-General of CARICOM to step down at year end

His Excellency Edwin Carrington, Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has notified the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community of his decision to step down from his position, effective 31st December 2010.

Mr. Carrington, a national of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago was appointed in 1992 - the sixth Secretary-General of the Community. He succeeded Mr. Roderick Rainford of Jamaica.

"It has been my privilege and honour to have been given the opportunity to serve the Region and its people in this capacity" said Mr. Carrington.

"These last 18 years as Secretary-General have been the pinnacle of my public service career. I have, despite the odds, done all I could to help create a viable and secure Community for All. It has been a period of important achievements as well as significant disappointments. I leave satisfied and confident however, that the Caribbean Community now has a solid platform on which to continue to build the integration movement," the Secretary-General said.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to deal with some pressing family issues and to enjoy much more time with them. I pay them the highest tribute for their patience, understanding and tremendous support during this long and arduous journey", Mr. Carrington added.

During his tenure, Mr. Carrington oversaw the revision of the Treaty of Chaguaramas and the consequent transition of the Community from a Common Market to a Single Market in 2006. Under his stewardship, the platform is also being set for eventual evolution of the Community to include a Single Economy - the framework for which Heads of Government have undertaken to create by 2015. Mr. Carrington's term has also seen the establishment of a number of key institutions designed to put the integration process on a sound base, including the CCJ - Caribbean Court of Justice (2005); as well as CROSQ - the Caribbean Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (2002); the CCCCC - Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (2005); the CCC - CARICOM Competition Commission (2008); and the CDF - CARICOM Development Fund (2008).

Mr. Carrington, an economist by profession, first joined the then Commonwealth Caribbean Secretariat in 1970 as Chief of Economics and Statistics, rising to Director of Trade and Integration before being appointed as Deputy Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States in 1976. He was subsequently elected Secretary-General of the ACP in 1985, the only Caribbean national, to date, to have held that position. In acknowledgement of his outstanding service to the ACP, Carrington Hall at the ACP Secretariat (Brussels) is named in his honour.

(pictured above) His Excellency Edwin Carrington, Secretary-General.

On returning from Brussels in 1991, Mr. Carrington served as Trinidad and Tobago's High Commissioner to Guyana before his appointment to his current position. Carrington is the longest serving Secretary-General of the Community in the service of which he has been the recipient of national awards from Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago as well as from the Dominican Republic, Italy and Spain.

As Secretary-General of CARICOM, Mr. Carrington also served as Secretary-General of CARIFORUM (comprising all the Member States of CARICOM except Montserrat and including the Dominican Republic).

For more information visit:
http://www.caricom.org

Foreign Exchange rates for NOVEMBER 2010

CURRENCY	BUYING	SELLING	CASH
Great British Pound	9.9185	10.4443	9.0350
United States Dollar	6.2267	6.3824	6.0000
European Euro	8.6900	9.1245	7.6533
Canadian Dollar	6.1413	6.4177	5.8093

"UWI for Haiti" The Rebuilding Efforts Continue

Since the catastrophic earthquake of January 12, 2010 in Haiti, The University of the West Indies (UWI) has been working under the theme, "UWI for Haiti" to find ways to assist in the rebuilding efforts of our Caribbean neighbour.

Several initiatives have already taken place. Staff and students engaged in collection drives of food, clothing, personal hygiene products and other such items. Bank accounts were opened on all Campuses, and funds deposited go towards assisting students in need.

The academic community on all campuses, including the Open Campus, held symposia, talks and wrote articles in the media aimed at sensitising and educating the general public and our internal community.

Part of the ongoing programme had been an agreement that the University would accommodate final-year students from Haiti on the Mona, Cave Hill and St. Augustine Campuses to allow them to finish their various projects.

The students, so far, all from the State University of Haiti, have submitted their applications, which are being evaluated by the Campuses to see how best their resources can admit them productively and to assess the students' capacity.

Initial numbers at the St. Augustine Campus had been projected at 75, but may actually turn out to be fewer after the assessments are done. The students will be housed at the various halls of residence.

The UWI initiatives are being coordinated by the Office of the Vice Chancellor of The University of the West Indies, Professor E. Nigel Harris. Prof Harris was in Trinidad to deliver the annual Eric Williams Memorial Lecture on July 9, 2010, and he spoke on "Haiti and its many crises and its place in the Caribbean." In his lecture, which covered the historical journey of Haiti and looked at ways to help rebuild the country, he outlined some of the measures taken by higher education institutes to assist Haiti.

> "it will focus on teachers whose training was interrupted by the earthquake, and then attention will be paid to training primary and secondary untrained teachers, teacher trainers and university faculty."

The following is an excerpt from his address which outlines the broad framework of the University's efforts.

"To lead the way, UWI stepped up to the plate. The Mona Campus offered 100 places, Cave Hill 25 and St. Augustine 75, and based on the wishes of our Haitian counterparts, places were offered to final-year students. For a number of reasons, including insufficient fluency in English, an unwillingness of some students to leave their families at this time and logistics, we shall fall short of the 200 for which we were aiming, but we have started something that can continue in the future, since we can assist too in graduate education and collaborative research which is not evident in Haiti at this time.

"I make a plea to our governments, private sector and civic leaders in the Caribbean to partner with us in helping to fund the housing and living requirements of these students. We need to raise at least US$1 million to house even the present students we shall admit. Some countries of the Caribbean have visited enormous cuts in funding on UWI. Despite this, we believe it is our fraternal duty as a Caribbean institution to assist in whatever practical ways we can in the re-founding of Haiti. However, we cannot do it all and it is for this reason we issue a public appeal to institutions and persons willing to assist in helping to fund living expenses, books and travel for these young people from Haiti.

"In addition to admitting students to our Campuses, we are also working on a project that will provide courses by distance to Haitians through the Open Campus. These programmes are expected to utilize both Haitian and UWI academics to construct appropriate and culturally specific programmes in areas such as teacher education, justice and security. In the area of teacher education, the project will adopt a two-tiered approach. Initially, it will focus on teachers whose training was interrupted by the earthquake, and then attention will be paid to training primary and secondary untrained teachers, teacher trainers and university faculty. I thank Dr. Glenford Howe of the Open Campus for preparing this proposal, which we have submitted to one multilateral agency so far. There is also a proposal that has received some initial funding to revive a training programme in Urban and Settlements Planning in Haiti. Dr Assad Mohammed of St. Augustine is leading this effort. As you can imagine, in reconstructing Port-au-Prince and other damaged areas, urban and settlement planning is a vital requirement."

For more information visit: **http://sta.uwi.edu/news.**

The Commonwealth Celebrates the International Year of Youth and T&T National Winning The Video Contest

The Commonwealth Youth Programme in partnership with YParticipate held an event, "Your Year, Your Choice" to celebrate the International Year of Youth .

pictured: *(from left) Ms. Samantha Khan receives her award from Director of the Youth Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat, Dr. Fatiha Serour and Director of Communications, Eduardo del Buey.*

At Marlborough House on Thursday 12th August, 2010, the Commonwealth Youth Programme brought together a caucus of young leaders in local and national government, business and the NGO sector. The speakers and presenters were all youth, many of whom have founded their own organizations.

The programme began with the address from the Director of the Youth Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat, Dr. Fatiha Serour. Dr. Serour wished all present a "happy International Year of Youth" and called for support of young people, "not just across the Commonwealth, but the world." She invited 'oldies' to stand back and allow young people to take the initiative.

Director of Communications, Mr. Eduardo del Buey, had similar remarks of youth as inheritors of the earth. He said that young people are the 'greatest untapped resource for development' and promised to keep his contribution brief as the day was one for the voices of those much younger than he.

An address was then delivered by the very poised and articulate Mr. Kamal Powel, a member of the Regional Youth Caucus, whose address set the energetic, gentle but adamant tone that would linger fervently throughout the day. Mr. Powel introduced the theme of the International Year of Youth, 'Dialogue and Mutual Understanding,' and stressed the importance of youth participation and partnership in order to foster 'development, peace and democracy.'

A bright young Trinidad and Tobago national, Ms. Samantha Khan, then took the microphone to speak about her winning video in the Commonwealth Video Contest. She made note of all the labels given to young people today, including 'lost generation,' and 'lazy rebels' that make them feel scared, abused, fat and inadequate, according to Ms. Khan. "We face a hurdle you never had to deal with…you," Ms. Khan said as she aimed her plea for young people towards the older generation. This powerful statement resounded throughout the room filled with enthusiastic faces.

Three girls and a guitarist from Tonga continued with the theme of encouraging youth to cherish these years of life and realize their capabilities. With gentle voices they sang an original song they collectively composed five years ago. "So good to be young and free," they sang with brilliant smiles on their faces, illustrating a genuine joy. They were awarded best music video in the Commonwealth Video Contest.

The programme moved forward with a panel discussion featuring three young persons, each founders of their own charity organization. Global Forum 40 was founded by Mr. Scott Forbes when he discovered the need for wider education on sex and sexually transmitted diseases. The UK, having the highest teenage pregnancy rates of all OECD countries, was a practical starting point for Mr. Forbes' organization. Global Forum 40 provides a platform for networking among young people who can educate each other. Mr. Forbes also mentioned the possible creation of an iPhone application which would offer universally comprehensive sex education.

The second speaker, Ms. Maherunesa Khandaker who is originally from Bangladesh noticed, during a visit to Bangladesh, that gender inequality was evident and women needed be empowered. Her charity, Arohon, proposes to help fight poverty in Bangladesh by encouraging women in business, arts and self employment. After two years participation in DFID's Platform 2 programme in Ghana, Ms. Khandaker was "inspired to take action." At the last G20 summit, she was the delegate for young persons and spoke with Prime Minister David Cameron.

The third speaker, Mr. Niel Bowerman, drew inspiration for his charity from the need

to increase awareness and promote proactive means to ensure environmental sustainability. His charity, Climate Justice Project, aims to bring awareness of the perils the human race faces if immediate changes are not made to decrease pollution and abuse of natural resources. "How old will you be in 50 years?" he asked the conference participants. The severe effects of global warming will not be in full effect for the next 50 years. Therefore, according to Mr. Bowerman, the leaders of today are making crucial decisions on environmental policies yet the results of such policies will fall on the current generation of young people.

The depth of artistic talent was demonstrated further as two poets each read a powerful and dramatic poems. This was a prelude to the panel discussion held after the lunch break. Panellists included Mr. Andre Campbell, an award winning entrepreneur, consultant and TV presenter and Mr. Steven Cheung, the 2012 London Olympic Ambassador and Young Advisor to the Ministry of Justice. From a young age, Mr. Campbell networked with and observed leaders around him giving him the know-how and confidence to start a youth consultancy, 'Enfuse youth', that empowers, trains and mentors young people. There was no need for the two young men to explicitly tell the other young people at the conference what makes a person successful at such a young age, they simply exemplified it.

The conference was a success as it spurred much discussion and questions. It ended on a high point as everyone was pushed to venture out and personally make a difference.

pictured: *(centre) Mrs Vanessa Khan and daughter Ms. Samantha Khan with the High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad And Tobago representatives (far left) Second Secretary, Ms. Nickesha Smith and (far right) Ms. Bianca Walker, intern.* ***Photos:*** *Lawson Lovell*

Eric Williams 'School Bags' Essay Competition Awards Ceremony Hails Trinidad and Tobago Winners

Photo: Aneel Karim, The University of the West Indies, Marketing and Communication Office

(above) Mr. Andrew Ali, Ms. Yunique Shannakay and Ms. Sharifa Ammon standing proud.

The media were out in full force at The University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine, to cover the August 13th Awards Ceremony of the biennial Eric Williams 'School Bags' Essay Competition, whose topic this year was "The Cuban Revolution, 1959-2009: Discuss its successes and failures. What relevance do these have for today's student?"

The event was hosted by UWI's Campus Principal, Clement Sankat, and Jamaica's High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, H.E. Sharon Saunders.

Organised by The Eric Williams Memorial Collection (EWMC), the contest was open to all final-year Sixth Formers in 178 schools, 17 Caribbean countries. This year's Competition, inaugurated in 2007, witnessed a 40% increase in participation, and several countries such as Guyana and Barbados – not previously represented – sent in entries. First prize winner, among several essays received from her country, was Yunique Shannakay Francis of Holy Childhood School, Jamaica. Topping the Trinidad and Tobago compositions were: second place, Sharifa Ammon, Bishop Anstey Girls High School (POS); and third, Andrew Ali of Hillview College. Submissions were also received from Grenada, Guyana and Barbados.

The judges were: Dr. Franklin Knight, Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Professor of History, The Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Colin Palmer, Dodge Professor of History, Princeton University; and Dr. Rita Pemberton, Head, UWI St. Augustine Department of History.

The reviewers were pleased with the depth of understanding displayed by the awardees whose submissions were of an exceptionally high quality - well researched, well written and persuasively argued. They were particularly interested in determining whether the students could provide a balanced assessment of a highly controversial event

in the Caribbean's history. They need not have worried. As Yunique Francis queried: "What are the implications of the Revolution for students like me? Because of its internationalist nature, several Jamaicans, who could not have realized their dreams without them, have received scholarships to study medicine in Cuba, returning home to provide care to disadvantaged Jamaicans at public hospitals." Sharifa Ammon's take on the subject was equally clear: "Lessons in perseverance, resilience, self-sufficiency and solidarity can also be learned." And, in addressing some of the failures of the 50-year-old Revolution, Andrew Ali paid special attention to what he characterised as Cuba's political oppression of its people and its diplomatic 'pariah' status.

Patrons of the Essay Competition were: A & B Book Distributors; Banwari Tours; Calaloux Publications; Caribbean Airlines, Ltd.; CARICOM; Digicel, Trinidad & Tobago, Ltd.; Encyclopedia of the Caribbean - Professor John Garrigus; High Commission, Jamaica; IOKTS Productions; Journal of African American History; Kelly Services Customs Brokerage, Ltd.; LIAT (1974), Ltd.; Majority Press; Markus Wiener Publishers; Miami-Dade County Public Schools; The Miami Herald Newspaper; The University of the West Indies; Trinidad Hilton Hotel; UNESCO: British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago; Yorke Structures, Ltd.

Prizes included: a four-day trip for two to Trinidad and Tobago with airfare, hotel accommodations and two meals daily; a laptop computer; various tours; US $1,500 in educational vouchers; courtesy calls on the President of Trinidad and Tobago and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; a set of Eric Williams' books; and a framed certificate. The winning essay will be published in the Miami Herald's online edition, and CARICOM's and UWI's (three campus) newsletters.

Scholar-statesman Eric Williams led the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for a quarter century until his death in 1981. Paying special attention to learning, "to educate is to emancipate", on August 30, 1962, the eve of his country's Independence from Britain, he exhorted:

"You, the children, yours is the great responsibility to educate your parents…you carry the future of [the Nation] in your school bags."

For more information visit:
http://www.mainlib.uwi.tt/divisions/wi/collsp/ericwilliams/ericwilliams.htm

The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service to Celebrate the 48th Anniversary of Trinidad and Tobago's Independence

Trinidad and Tobago Nationals and invited guests, along with rays of sun filtered into the gorgeous St. Peter's Church in Eaton Square for the Interfaith Service celebrating the 48th Anniversary of Independence of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. The service was very well attended and was off to a prompt start at 3pm on Sunday 5th September, 2010.

As the national flag was raised on the altar, the congregation stood to sing the national anthem. The song resounded beyond the doors of the church as 350 plus persons joined in tribute to their mother land. Reverend Nicholas Papadopulos, vicar of St. Peter's Church, welcomed everyone before the congregation began singing Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer.

The hymns were led by the gracious and talented Jemima Douglas-Onyido and tied together the programme. The message of pride, praise, and hope underlined in the religious readings perfectly illustrated the theme of the service 'Acknowledging the Past, Pressing Forward in Faith.'

The Muslim contribution was from the Holy Qur'an and read by Mr. Imam Rasheed Khan. Mrs. Asha Gosine-Ghosh read from the Gita on behalf of the Hindu community, followed by an Indian classical dance performed by Mrs. Rohini Kumar.

The service gently progressed from the chime of the bells on the feet of Mrs. Kumar to the soulful voice of Ms. Sandra Brown-Hart who sang Swing Low Sweet Chariot and Deep River.

The homily was read by Reverend Patricia Stephens and Ms. Nickesha Smith, Second Secretary, Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, London read an excerpt from the Holy Bible to conclude the contributions from the major religious faiths practised in Trinidad and Tobago.

The service came to an end with the recitation of the National Pledge as a symbol of dedication and patriotism to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. The congregation shifted out of their pews merrily while singing the hymn Battle Hymn of the Republic and headed to the church yard for the reception.

(see page 14-15 for event photos)

Celebrating Emancipation Day 2010

On Saturday 14th August, 2010, African drums filled the air in Belgrave Square as the Emancipation Celebrations started at the High Commission for the Republic for Trinidad and Tobago. Guests were greeted by four lively drummers before they headed up the familiar red-carpeted stairs to the reception room.

Awaiting them was the animated and energetic folk storyteller, Ms. Deborah De Gazon. Ms. De Gazon took the stage after the national anthem was sung and the President's Emancipation Day message was read by Acting High Commissioner Ms. Gail P. Guy. 'Ananci the spider' was present in the room as Ms. Gazon created a vivid depiction of the clever, sly folklore character.

The guest speaker for the occasion was Ms. Greta Mendez. Ms. Mendez spoke thoroughly about the history and development of dance, focusing on the importance of the Afro-Caribbean contribution to movement and art. With one hand on her lower abdomen and the other in the air she demonstrated perfectly the characteristic waist movement of Caribbean people. Ms. Mendez was adamant about discarding the label for such dancing, 'girating,' as it has a very negative connotation. She used the word 'wining' instead, and made everyone chuckle as she danced in front of them.

Alexander the Great, winner of this year's Nottinghill Carnival Calypso Monarch, performed his song 'Haiti' as he created a reminiscent atmosphere of the day slaves in Trinidad and Tobago were emancipated. The guests joined in during the catchy chorus.

After the presentation and performances, the guests and staff of the High Commission mingled and enjoyed bites of traditional 'Trinbagonian' food and drink. The evening was a joyous celebration of freedom and national unity.

At the event dignitaries in attendence included Jamaica's High Commissioner His Excellency Anthony S. Johnson and his wife Mrs. Johnson, Acting High Commissioner for Grenada, Ms. Fiona Sandy and a representative of the Commonwealth of Dominica High Commission.

Photos: Lawson C. Lovell

(from left) H.E. Anthony S Johnson with wife Mrs. Johnson, Acting High Commissioner Ms. Gail P. Guy and Acting High Commissioner for Grenada Ms. Fiona Sandy.

01: *Ms. Deborah De Gazon in character.* **02:** *African Drummers welcoming guests to the event* **03:** *Ms. Greta Mendez demonstrating a french dance movement with H.E Anthony S. Johnson Jamaican High Commissioner* **04**: Calypsonian *Alexander D' Great singing 'Haiti' .*
05: *(far right) Ms. Bianca Walker and Ms. Claudia Cupid from the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission serving guests at reception.*

The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service to Celebrate the 48th Anniversary of Trinidad and Tobago's Independence

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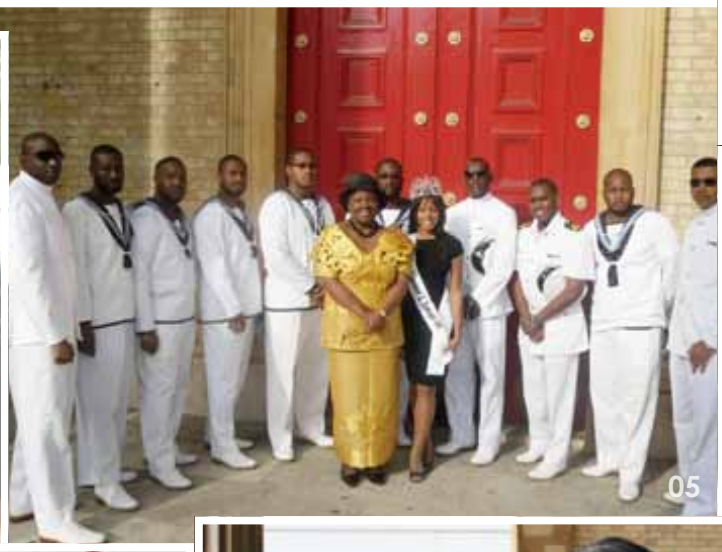
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01: *Flag bearer Writer Kern Babb of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard leads the Participants at the end of service.* **02.** *(from left) Vicar of the Church The Rev. Nicholas Papadopulos, Fr. John Metivier and Imam Rasheed Khan.* **03.** *Mrs. Asha Gosine-Ghosh.* **04.** *Nationals adorn the national colours to display their patriotism at the Inter-FaithThanksgiving Service.* **05.** *(from centre) Ag. High Commissioner Ms. Gail P. Guy and Miss T&T UK 2010 Ms. Melanie Peterkin-Phillip surrounded by representatives from Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard.* **06.** *(from left) Ms. Alafair Celestine embracing Ms. Greta Mendez.* **07.***(from left) Mr. Jim Mungal and Mrs. Claudette Parshment.* **08.** *Counsellor Ms. Roanna Gopaul with Second Secretary Ms. Nickesha Smith.* **09.** *Members of the Mangroves Steel Orchestra filled the air with sweet sounds of pan music.* **10.** *Classical Indian Dancer Mrs. Rohini Kumar performs in front of the congregation.* **11.** *Nationals dressed up to represent the diversity of Trinidad and Tobago.* **12.** *Defence Attaché, Capt Jeewah Ramoutar in conversation with Coast Guard officers.* **13.** *Mrs. Jemima Douglas-Onyido leading the congregation in song.* **14.** *Counsellor Roanna Gopaul, Mrs. Althea Banehene, Minister Counsellor, High Commission for Antigua and Barbuda and Mr Antony Wiltshire, Minister Counsellor, High Commission for Barbados.* **15.** *Nationals enjoying the refreshments at the reception after the service.* **16.** *Rev. Patricia A. H. Stephens on the altar delivering the Homily accompanied by Mrs. Jemima Douglas-Onyido singing songs of praises.* **17.** *Ms. Josephine Learmond-Criqui with niece dancing to the sounds of Mangroves Steel Orchestra (in the background).* **18.** *Coast Guard Lt. Brathwaite.* **19.** *Mr. Ancil Wong with Trinidad and Tobago High Commission Staff member Ms. Romaine Maharaj.* **20.** *(second from left) Mrs. Ameena Tenny and (first from right) Mr. Ricardo Cummings catching up with nationals.* **21.** *(from right) Immigration Attaché Narinesingh Lal and Mrs. Lal.*

Photos: Lawson C. Lovell, Alafair Celestine.

NATIONAL AWARDS 2010

The Following awards were conferred on the ocassion of the 48th Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago:

	Name	Status	For Distinguished and Outstanding Service to Trinidad and Tobago in the sphere of:
THE ORDER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Pundit Krishna Maharaj (Posthumous)	Pundit	Community Service
	Dr. Wahid Ali (Posthumous)	Medical Doctor	Community Service
	Mr. Karl Terrence Hudson-Phillips, Q.C.	Senior Counsel	Law
	Mr. Kamaluddin Mohammed	Former Member of Parliament	National Service
THE CHACONIA MEDAL (GOLD)	The Hon. Monsignor Gregory Ramkissoon	Executive Director	Community Service
	Mr. Ronald Harford	Banker	Business
	Mr. Brian Anthony MacFarlane	Artist/Designer	Culture
	Mr. Satnarayan Maharaj	Religious Leader	Religion
	Professor Julian Stanley Kenny	Biologist (Retired)	Conservation of the Environment
	Mr. Errol Mahabir	Former Member of Parliament	National Service
THE CHACONIA MEDAL (SILVER)	Professor Zulaika Ali	Medical Doctor	Medicine
	Ms. Claudia Pegus	Fashion Designer	Fashion
	Mrs. Margaret Elcock	Broadcaster	Religious Education
THE HUMMING BIRD (GOLD)	Mr. Andrew Gordon Ganteaume	Cricketer	Sport
	Mr. Don Anthony Jacob	Martial Arts Instructor	Sport
	Mr. Dennis Alberto Pantin (Posthumous)	Economist	National Development
	Mr. John E. J. Arnold	Event Co-coordinator	Culture
	Bishop Clive Abdulah	Bishop	Religion
THE HUMMING BIRD (SILVER)	Dr. Nasser Mustapha	Senior Lecturer in Sociology	Community Service
	St. John's Trace Ramleela Committee	Cultural Group	Culture
	Mr. Wayne Chance	Social Worker	Community Service
	Mrs. Patricia Roberts (Posthumous)	Attorney-at-Law	Community Service
	Mr. Harripersad Dass	Manager	Community Service
	Mr. Augustine "Rock" Ribeiro	Footballer	Sport
	Mr. Ronald Carlos Greene	Power lifter	Sport/Power lifting
	Mrs. Sheila Sawh-Gowkaran	Entrepreneur	Community Service
THE HUMMING BIRD (BRONZE)	Trinidad and Tobago Women's Cricket Team	Sports Team	Sport
PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL OF MERIT (GOLD)	Mr. Premchand Sookoo	Councillor	Public Service
	Dr. Nicholas Bennie Tia-Okwee	Medical Doctor	Medicine

National Awards 2010 continues on top of next page

National Awards 2010 cont'd

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL OF MERIT (GOLD)	Mr. Joe Sirju	School Principal (retired)	Education
	Dr. Rampersad Parasram	Medical Doctor	Medicine
	Mr. Esmond Knox Farfan	Airline Pilot (Retired)/ Business Entrepreneur	Business
PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL OF MERIT (SILVER)	Mr. Lyle Patrick Donawa	Agriculturalist	Public Service
	Ms. Beulah Eliza Duke	Nurse/Consultant	Public Service
	Mr. Lennox Austin McKay	Welfare Officer (Retired)	Public Service
	Mr. Carlo McHoney	Commissioner of Prisons (Retired)	Public Service
PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL OF MERIT (BRONZE)	Mr. Roopnarine Rambachan	Attorney-at-Law	Law
	Mr. Vernon Ramesar, Snr.	School Principal (Retired)	Education

The Honourable Winston Dookeran, Minister of Finance

Minister of Finance Delivers 2010 Budget

On September 8th, 2010, The Honourable Winston Dookeran, Minister of Finance presented to Parliament, the Budget for Fiscal year 2010/11. The theme of this year's Budget is "Facing the issues, Turning the Economy Around". The following is a summary of the fiscal measures announced by the Honourable Minster and in the Budget.

The budget, in which the Government projects it will spend $41.3 billion from October 2010 to September 2011, was predicated on a 'conservative' price of US$65 per barrel for oil and US$2.75 per million cubic feet for gas. Inflation is projected to be at 7% and real GDP growth is expected to be 2%. The balance in the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund as at August 2010 stood at US $3.3 billion and US$328 million was deposited in the 2010 fiscal year. Minister Dookeran said the projected fiscal deficit of $7.7 billion, or 5.48 percent of our Gross Domestic Product.

The Hon. Minister noted that in order to bolster development in the downstream energy sector, pensions fund trustees would be allowed to invest pension proceeds in suitable "downstream" activity. The Government has sought to expand the free trade zone activity by removing the project cap of US$50M to help revitalize the struggling free trade zone regime. Incentives for agriculture and small businesses were also announced to stimulate the growth and development in the areas.

Housing was also tackled through several initiatives such as the proposed creation of a holding company for the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Company and Home Mortgage Bank which is to facilitate greater public participation in this area through listing on the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange and the raising of finance through the use of derivatives.

Some of the proposed changes to Corporation Tax Allowances were :

- Increase maximum arts and culture allowance from $1 million to $2 million;
- Deduction of contribution to Children's Life Fund up to 15% of total income per income year;
- 150% wear and tear allowance on solar heating equipment acquired by companies;
- 150%wear and tear on acquisition of wind turbines;
- 150% allowance on energy audit costs;

Minister Dookeram also stated that there would be no change in applicable rates for Customs & Excise Duty however Reliefs to be introduced would be:

- 0% for 5 years on motor vehicle tax on imports for CNG vehicles up to 2 years old;

- 0% import duty on imports of solar water heaters;
- 0% import duty on wind turbines and equipment.

The rate of Income Tax of 25% was retained whilst additions to the income tax allowances inlcude:

- $1,000 tax free special duty allowance to police officers;
- $18,000 mortgage interest allowance per household for first time home owners for first 5 years;
- Deduction of contribution to Children's Life Fund up to 15% of total income;
- 25% allowance up to $25,000 on solar heating equipment.

Property Tax Act 2009 was repealed and rates and values under current Land and Building Taxes Act would apply. A waiver of all Land and Building taxes for the year 2010 was also granted.

The establishment of a $10 million Innovation Financing facility via Commercial banks has been announced to assist Small and Micro Enterprises.

The Government indicated Agricultural Incentives which would involve an establishment of Loan Default Fund;

- Reduction of interest rates from 6% - 8% to 3% - 5%;
- Allocation of$75-150 million for 2011 to the Agricultural Development Bank;
- $20 million to be designated for lending by the Agricultural Development Bank for Green house and other similar technologically driven agricultural projects.

Environment

- NGO's to access Green Fund;
- Green Fund legislation to allow for remediation, reforestation and conservation of the environment.

Litter Act

100% Increase in penalties imposed under the Litter Act, 1973

The Hon. Minister has granted a Tax Amnesty on outstanding penalties and interest up to income year 2009 for late filing of returns and late payment of income tax, corporation tax, business levy, green fund levy, VAT and lands and building taxes. This amnesty expires on May31, 2011.

The Energy Chamber explores Business Opportunities in East Africa

In keeping with the reorientation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs towards trade facilitation and the export of services in which Trinidad and Tobago has developed competencies, Dr. The Honourable Surujrattan Rambachan, Minister of Foreign Affairs held discussions with members of the Energy Chamber on 12th July, 2010 before they embarked on their Energy Services Trade Mission to East Africa which took place from 17th July to 3rd August, 2010.

The delegation which was led by Dr. Thackwray Driver, Chief Executive Officer of the Energy Chamber, and included officials from API Pipeline, the National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited, Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited, Kenson Group of Companies and Sylvester's Engineering, visited Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania to explore business opportunities in the Energy Services Sector in those countries.

The Minister emphasized to the Energy Chamber that the export of services especially in the oil and gas sector has tremendous potential for revenue earning as well as jobs for nationals on the African continent. Dr. Rambachan was also pleased to note that already a number of Trinidad and Tobago businessmen were already providing equipment to the energy sector in West Africa, Brazil and the United States of America; a testimony to the entrepreneurship of the business community. He assured that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would complement this entrepreneurship with a facilitative environment through the network of Trinidad and Tobago Overseas Missions.

Minister Rambachan further indicated that East Africa had become a promising new frontier in the energy sector and that there is scope for companies from Trinidad and Tobago to make use of opportunities in the emerging energy sectors of Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania. The creation of business partnerships through Energy Services Trade Mission would also benefit East African companies seeking investors from Trinidad and Tobago in developing their nascent oil industry.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs reiterated that it was the responsibility of the Energy Chamber, the Chambers of Commerce, the Manufacturers' Association and the business community to take advantage of the markets being opened through the work of Trinidad and Tobago Diplomatic Missions on the African continent.

For more information:
http://www.foreign.gov.tt/

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MANGO FESTIVAL 2010

Encouraging people to see the mango as a business enterprise was one of the aims of the Trinidad and Tobago Mango Festival that took place on Sunday July 25 at the University Field Station in Mount Hope.

First held by the Network of Rural Women Producers Trinidad and Tobago (NRWP) on 15th August 2009, this year, the Business Development Unit of the Faculty of Science and Agriculture of The University of the West Indies (UWI) joined, and sponsored three booths at the event.

The UWI's involvement said Mrs. Gia Gaspard-Taylor of NRWP, had ensured that, "business development and the educational aspect [was] given top billing this year."

"Our partners are The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Inter-American Institute for Corporation on Agriculture (IICA), The Ministry of Food Production, Land and Marine Services, and we are very pleased to have UWI join us," she said.

The day was full of activities meant to promote mango as a business enterprise, to teach people about the various features of mango life and to offer mango delicacies and fruit. It opened with a mango market and then a presentation on how mangos are used around the world in various ceremonies. In the afternoon there was a formal presentation which was followed by a tea party reception. There were grafting demonstrations, paper making, facials, games and competitions to see who could prepare the best mango dish, who could smell and name a mango, and who could produce the best display.

Although nearly half of the world's mangos are cultivated in India, there are innumerable varieties from region to region. In the Caribbean alone several types can be found and everyone has their favourite. In Trinidad, the most popular ones are the Julie and the Starch, which now fetch high prices at the market.

For more information visit:
http://www.carapn.net

HAITI AND CARICOM

If the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) really has a purpose now, it should be to look after its Caribbean sisters and brothers, said The Hon. Stephen Cadiz, M.P. Minister of Trade and Industry.

The Hon. Stephen Cadiz, M.P. Minister of Trade and Industry addressed the workshop Reconstructing Haiti: Opportunities for the Trinidad and Tobago Business Sector, at the Crowne Plaza hotel, Port-of-Spain on 15th July, 2010. In his address, Minister Cadiz gave recognition to the ability of the Trinidad and Tobago local private sector to expand its influence within the reconstruction effort. He highlighted that because of this, the Ministry of Trade and Industry had partnered with the Association of Industry and Commerce as well as the CARICOM Secretariat to facilitate the participation of regional enterprise in the reconstruction effort in Haiti.

Minister Stephen Cadiz indicated that the government was aware there were a number of daunting challenges in a situation such as political instability, lack of security, payment guarantees, language and cultural barriers, absence of logistical support and much more. On behalf of the government, Minister Cadiz extended an invitation to those interested in joining the partnership (Ministry of Trade and Industry, Association of Industry and Commerce and CARICOM Secretariat) as many Haitian companies can assist, in English and using US currency. Minister Cadiz said, "This sets a framework for T&T private sector to help the Haitian private sector in reconstructing Haiti."

At the regular meeting of the Conference of Heads of Governments of the CARICOM meeting held on 4-7 July 2010, CARICOM decided to 'ramp-up' its effort, the Honourable Minister revealed, to encourage the input of the regional private sector in the reconstruction effort. The Minister called for everyone in attendance to be part of it, as "it opens up a whole new sector for Trinidad and Tobago and CARICOM businesses". According to Minister Cadiz, it also underlined the importance of such opportunities for the Caribbean to become more self reliant and less dependent on the International countries. Trinidad and Tobago has pledged another US$5 million to Haiti which will be managed according to Minister Cadiz, in four priority areas of action previously identified by Jean-Max Bellerive, Prime Minister of Haiti, which are: territorial, economic, social

and institutional rebuilding.

Haiti, a stimulus

Percival James Patterson, former Prime Minister of Jamaica and CARICOM special representative to Haiti, thanked the public of Trinidad and Tobago for their interest in and support of the reconstruction efforts in Haiti following the catastrophic earthquake of 12th January 2010. He said, "The disaster presents an opportunity for us and can create a stimulus if we do it right. We can develop meaningful relationships between member countries of CARICOM. It's time for Haiti to join CARICOM", "There is no field of human and social endeavour that can be excluded from the reconstruction of Haiti. I want a new Haiti, the renaissance of Haiti."

For more information:
http://www.tradeind.gov.tt

COLOUR SPECIALIST FACTORY
'Kalypso Powder Koating'

As a child Mr. Junior Howell grew up in Laventille surrounded by pioneers and inventors of the double second steel pan such as Vincent Bertie and Pompee Marshall who were employed by his father. Today, the advancement of steel pan has remained an important focus for Mr. Howell.

Mr. Howell, who campaigned for a steel orchestra in every school in Trinidad and Tobago, visited the High Commission to discuss his latest project. The Hummingbird Medal recipient has devised an innovative and creative way to fuse media and performing arts.

Colour. It is what Mr. Howell decided was missing from the steel pan bands across Trinidad and Tobago. With a B.Sc in Mathematics and Physics, Mr. Howell is able to use his scientific know-how to colour the metal used to make the steel pan using electrolysis.

On viewing the steel pan, many people immediately question the effect of colouring on the tone and sound. However, according to Mr. Howell, because the colour is added via a chemical process, the properties of the steel used remain the same.

What is produced is a sweet sounding instrument with added flare, whether it is purple, blue, bronze or the national colour, red. Steel bands can now identify themselves by the colour of their pans and bring life to the former monotony of silver pans.

Mr. Howell uses the vibrancy of colour to fight against crime. Using his teaching ability, as former principal and music teacher, he formed a steel band comprising young gang members from high-crime areas of Trinidad. As the members of the same gang were separated into categories of tenor pan, double second, bass and so forth, the criminally aggressive identity within gangs was dissolved. Many of the young people continue to play pan professionally today.

This practice of colouring steel pans will add to the milieu of colours seen around the streets of Trinidad and Tobago during Carnival season. Our country, known for its animated culture and, people will certainly welcome more colours to its beautifully painted canvas.

Not only will steel pans in Trinidad and Tobago be outfitted in bright colours, but Mr. Howell carries his idea and business across the Atlantic. In between his performances with his band in Panorama at Nottinghill Carnival, Mr. Howell promotes the colouring of the steel pan to pan players and bands in London.

Photos: Lawson C. Lovell

The environmentally friendly process of colouring steel pans has already caught on in Trinidad. Mr. Howell's factory, Colour Specialist Factory, is located in Laventille and the gears are turning as he paints the town red, blue, purple, and bronze.

For more information visit :
http://www.kalypsokoatingtt.com/

01: *Mr. Junior Howell displays the Colour Specialist Factory brochure.* **02:** *Mr. Junior Howell presents Acting High Commissioner Ms. Gail P. Guy with a book and cd gift set he produced titled "Patois and English Folk songs of Trinidad and Tobago".*

Notting Hill Carnival 2010

The High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in London congratulates all participants on their outstanding performances and unique contributions to the success of the Notting Hill Carnival and its associated events.

01: *Glorious Backstage Arts mas band on the road with their potrayal of 'The Thrill of the Hunt'.* **02:** *Burrokeets UK mas band revellers in costume potrayal of Renaissance.* **03.** *Bachannal Mas' King of the Midnight Robber costumed section.*

Photo: Alafair Celestine

Nothing Hill Carnival 2010 Calypso results

(pictured) Alexander De Great performing his winning calypso 'Haiti' in the Calypso Monarch UK Finals

1st Alexander De Great with the calypso *'Haiti'*

2nd Rev b with the calypso *Number 10*

3rd De Admiral with the calypso *'They Love My People'*

3rd Giselle with the calypso *'War'*

2010 NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL MAS BAND RESULTS

LARGE

1st Mahogany Carnival Club

2nd Paraiso

3rd Masquerade 2000

MEDIUM

1st Yaa

2nd Elimu Paddington Arts

3rd Barbados Carnival Committee (Club)

SMALL

1st Phoenix Carnival Costume Band & Soca Express

2nd Tropical Isles

3rd Flagz possibly with Mash

Photos: Keiron Victor Perez

Photo courtesy CSI Steelband Trust

(pictured) CSI Steelband Trust performing in 2010 Notting Hill Carnival UK Panorama Steel Band Competition.

2010 NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL STEEL BAND COMPETITIONS

BAS/CAPCA JUNIOR PANORAMA

1st CSI Steelband Trust *Nah Do Dat*

2nd Croydon Steel Orchestra *Dead or Alive*

BAS/LNHC UK NATIONAL PANORAMA

1st Ebony Steelband Trust *Musical Fire*

2nd Mangrove Steelband *Pan Army*

3rd Real Steel *Pan Army*

BAS/LNHC NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL BEST STEEL BAND ON THE ROAD

1st Croydon Steel Orchestra *Surrender*

2nd Ebony Steelband *Rewind*

3rd Metronomes Steel Orchestra *I Got A Feeling*

BAS/LNHC NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL BEST STEEL BAND ON THE ROAD (Traditional/Pan Round Neck)

1st Pan Necktar *If I Ruled The World*

2nd Nostalgia Steelband *Ainodorrida*

Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham in Kent

Children's TV presenter Floella Benjamin has taken her seat in the House of Lords as a Liberal Democrat peer. She was awarded an OBE from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for her life's work in 2001.

Her official title is Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham in Kent; however she will go by the simpler Baroness or Lady Benjamin.

Lady Benjamin is best known for presenting iconic shows like PLAY SCHOOL and PLAY AWAY. In addition to her numerous appearances in her own television productions and dramas, she works with a number of UK charities such as Barnardo's, SPARKS, Sickle Cell Society, NSPCC and OXFAM.

Cultural Ambassador

Floella Benjamin was born in Trinidad in 1949 and came to England as a child in 1960. She left school at 16 with the aim of becoming Britain's first ever black female bank manager but changed direction and became an actress, presenter, writer, independent producer and an active advocate for the welfare, care and education of children throughout the world. She hosted well known children's television shows including Play School, A Houseful of Plants, Hullaballoo and Play Away and was awarded an Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to broadcasting in 2001. She appeared in the highly acclaimed films Black Joy and recently in Run, Fat Boy, Run. Her latest shows are Mama Mirabelle's Home Movies and Sarah Jane Adventures.

Today, she runs a successful film and television production company and is a Vice-President of Barnardo's. She led a twenty-year campaign to create the role of Children's Minister, which achieved its goal in 2003. She is now leading a nation wide campaign to save UK made children's television programmes.

Over the years Baroness Benjamin held a number of public and voluntary appointments such as:

- Chairperson of the Women of the Year Lunch for five years
- Chairperson of BAFTA -Television, was a member of the OFCOM Content Board and a Millennium Commissioner
- President of the Elizabeth 'R' Commonwealth Broadcasting Fund
- A Governor of Dulwich College and the National Film & Television School
- Chair of Governors of the Isle of Sheppey Academy and a member of the London Olympic Diversity and Inclusion Board
- Chancellor of the University of Exeter and a Deputy Lieutenant for Greater London

She recently launched her own ranage of Caribbean ready meals which are in supermarkets across the country.

Her broadcasting work has been recognised with a Special Lifetime Achievement BAFTA and an OBE. She has written over 20 books including *Skip Across the Ocean*, *My Two Grannies* and *Coming to England* which is used as a resource in schools in social and cross curricular areas. The book was adapted into an RTS award winning film by her company for BBC Education. Her new book *The Arms of Britannia* which is the follow up to *Coming to England* has just been published.

She created *Touching Success*, an initiative which aims to mentor and help young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to aspire.

She has completed 10 consecutive London Marathons and over the years has raised thousands of pounds for children's charity Barnardo's. She also actively supports SPARKS, NSPCC and The Sickle Cell Society.

01: *Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham in Kent standing proudly in the House of Commons.* **02:** *Lady Benjamin delivering a feature address at the Interlink event hosted by the High Commission in April 2010.*

'Trumpeting to Chipping'

The following is the key note feature address, that was delivered by Ms. Greta Mendez on Saturday 14th August, 2010 at the High Commission as part of the Emancipation Day Celebrations.

Dance: This is a huge subject that is integral to all our lives; therefore I would only be able to open a window on the subject for you. Hopefully at the end of my talk you would look through the window and enrich your lives by delving further into the subject and discover how essential it is in our daily lives.

Dance, what is it? It has an external form and like music it has elements that defy description, it moves us in profound ways that takes us beyond the boundaries of words. We dance to celebrate the passage of our lives from birth to death.

Dance is also an **Art** in which emotions or ideas are choreographed and staged, to express themes of human joy, tragedy, aspiration and dreams.

We dance to re-connect to the earth.

Ken Saro Wiwa said,
"We must dance to help liberate ourselves,
Dance your anger and your joys
Dance the GUNS to Silence
Dance dance dance".

Lawyers, Ambassadors, In the 14th and 15th Century in order to pass your law exams, you had to have social graces and one of those graces, was the **ability to dance**.

Louis XIV of France, who reigned from 1638–1715, was a keen dancer of the so-called Noble Style, which under his regime, spread throughout Europe. At this time, the French nobility were expected to be able to dance in the Noble Style at the formal balls, and they even performed in the court ballets. During the 17th century dancing had not only a great social importance, but also great political importance – Some ambassadors were chosen on account of their skill in the ballroom.

The following words have been attributed to Jesus, **"He, who dances not, knows not what comes to pass."**

Now let us look at the Dance of Trinidad and Tobago…Dance like our food, language, music, fashion, and a large percentage of us, is a fabulous synthesis of many cultures including Spanish, French, African, British, Indian, Chinese, Syrian, Jew, Lebanese and Caribbean. The current dance forms of Trinidad and Tobago, like our callaloo, are a finely tuned and unique fusion of all of the cultures that have made a home in our twin islands.

Today we are celebrating Emancipation day, therefore we would be focusing on the African active ingredient in our Dance. In order to do this we would have to look at the first documented period when the Africans entered the Caribbean, this was during enslavement [no one is born a slave, human beings were captured and enslaved]. We also have to examine the Dance of the other main Cultures in the Caribbean in that period.

When we look at the basis of **Spanish Dance,** which is a component of our dance, we would observe that although they use the pelvis and spine to spiral and spin, the pelvis & spine are mainly held, to show a proud carriage of the body. Their movements connect with the Earth, with shoes, and it appears that they are **stamping the earth** to extract its passion to build their passion; they also stamp to create rhythms.

In **French Dance**, the mazurka step is a rocking step onto one

01

foot and then back onto the other followed by a slight pause and is counted 'one, two, lift'. The mazurka step alternates with a waltz step as follows:

The Minuet, Gavottes, Quadrilles etc., all have held spines and pelvis and although intricate feet vocabulary, **they do not appear to be contacting or having much consciousness of the earth.**

Dances of the United Kingdom: Scottish, Irish, English and Moorish dances, all use intricate foot work. These dances all elevate and **jump away from the ground, with held spines and pelvises.**

Here I would site Peggy Harper[1] 'This is a generalised, in European dance; the dances give the impression of escaping from the earth and going off into space.' They direct their movements and gestures upwards and outwards. Their main concern is to create geometric spatial patterns with their movements.'

Now let us look at the African dynamic. African dance also jumps, it also spirals, while also using intricate patterns, but one of the major foundations of African dance is *"the basic postures and gestures, even the attention of the dances is directed towards the earth, as the source of life".* [Harper] Through percussive motor-rhythms dancers continuously reach upwards plus out-wards, but continuously return to **connect with the depth of the earth.**

There is also a very important dynamic to African dance, it is the way the vertebrae and pelvis are used; The European spine is **held**, the African **spine** is **highly articulated**, it undulates, there is an ongoing communication flowing form the base of the spine to the head. Added to this is the liberated **pelvis**, most African Dance starts with a deep contraction in the **core of the pelvis**, this then radiates outwards like dropping a pebble in water. This deep contraction in the pelvis and liberated spine, frees the body to explore and create a wealth of movement vocabulary. There is also a **physiological reason** why this opens up the body to more intricate and expansive movement vocabulary. Leading directly from the heart is the aorta which descends to become continuous with the **abdominal aorta** and divides at the 4th lumber vertebra into right & left common iliac arteries, further along it continues to sub-divides[2]. By igniting their movements with a deep contraction in the pelvis; participants of African dance are tapping into a valuable resource, **oxygenated blood is being pumped from a major**

central hub. This pumping/ contracting means at the abdominal aorta means that oxygenated blood moving at a faster rate around the body to its depths and extremities. Added to this you have an articulate vertebrae which is physiologically responsible for the movements of the body. **The communication between heart, head, body and invisible soul is now at optimum**; *the dancer can now fly, fall to the earth, and in a moment be in the air again, there appears to be a narrative between the earth and the dancers through their feet, which journeys up the body to be released into the heavens. There is a conscious relationship to the earth as a source of life…"* As P. Harper expressed "*…in Africa the dancer accepts his or her body as a means of expression of his imaginative, intellectual and spiritual aspirations and accepts his/her sexuality as an integral part of this experience.*" In order to achieve this they had to make the connection between released pelvis and the vertebrae body, the deep unconscious and the imagination.

African dance, like most of our culture came to us via the Atlantic Ocean, whether directly or indirectly as a consequence of enslavement.

It is difficult to describe the dance of that period, *'The fact that the majority of authors describing the dance of blacks at that period, were neither dancers nor enthusiasts proved further limitation. The descriptions frequently lacked both clarity and detail and added to this, older traditions, customs and dances had been lost because of rapid acculturation.'*[3] **But Dance they did!** As everything else was taken away from them, in their dance they could liberate themselves from the indignities of the day, as their feet and bodies connected with the earth, falling onto it and leaping off of it; their bodies free and connecting with, the wind, the sky, pelvis communicating with pelvis, arms open wide. In their dance, they could imagine the true possibility of themselves; they could also spiritually transport themselves to their lives in Africa. *"The complexity of the rhythmic patterns of the music led to a similar complexity in the structure of the dance; the feet might follow one rhythm while the hips moved to a second and the arms and head to a third and forth."* They danced at every opportunity they got, they danced into the early hours of the morning, they danced at the birth of a child, they danced when someone died, which was seen as the ultimate liberation, as their spirit would be free and transported back to their homeland.

The African dance was also celebrated by the Roman Catholic Churches in the Caribbean by the Nuns *"the nuns don't miss the opportunity to dance it [the Calenda/ Chia,] on Christmas Eve on elevated platform in the choir…so that the people may take part in the joy which these good souls demonstrate for the birth of the Saviour."*[5]

Where ever the Roman Catholic church was dominant, the African could in the main, freely and openly celebrate their culture, as the Roman Catholic church was interested in **saving 'souls'** This all **changed** with the spreading of the values of the **Reformation** by its exponents *the Protestant and Methodist movements. All African cultural practices were banned and branded as sinful. "The Protestant and Methodist church branded both the fiddle and the dance as sinful, the drum had previously been banned due to*

its inflammatory nature"."…the extreme Puritans, who not only banished dance but all art from their churches, in their regard of the physical World as the seat of all evil."[7]

With the **condemnation** of African dance two things happened, in public they started to imitate **the formal dance** of the Europeans, they continued with the uninhibited **African dance, hidden** from view. Many of these dances then became ritualized and incorporated into secret religious services. This all changed in 1838 when the enslaved African got his birthright, **Emancipation**. They took their dance into the streets of Trinidad and Tobago carnival and each year for two days, **every colour, creed and race**, dance one of the fundamental movements of SHANGO, a ritual dance to the God of the same name in the West African religion, **Orisha**. It is commonly know as **chipping** but it is from the basic movement of **Shango-Trumpeting**. This releases new depths of energy which enables us to masquerade for two days.

Whining, [not to be mistaken for the main current practice at carnival which is gyrating] is also an African root, initiated by the contraction of the deep pelvic core. In *African dance the dancer accepts his body as a means of expression of his imagination, intellectual and spiritual aspirations, and accepts his sexuality as an integral part of this experience, but this does not imply provocative sexiness.*[8]

03

With Emancipation other cultures came to Trinidad & Tobago, together with the rest of the Caribbean; These cultural forms have incubated, together with the work of dance artist such as the Holder's, McBurnie, Edwards, E. Joseph, J. Coggins, Ahee, St. Louis, C. Francis, T. Mohammed, A. Johnson and who brought African dance forms out of the dark corners; fused it with all the other culture forms to create original choreography and put them onto the main stages of Trinidad and Tobago. Their work together with inventive dances of the Carnival Masqueraders gone on to create the foundations of finely tuned, unique and potentially potent, dance forms which are defined in the Caribbean dance genre.

"The rhythms of African dance are basic to social cohesion, ritual observance, the maintenance of tradition, the expression of grief and joy" Katherine Dunham

Many of the principles and philosophy of African dance in now fully absorbed into Global Dance.

References:

1. *Peggy Harper,* Choreographer, Director of Dance University Ife Theatre Company Nigeria
2. *Foundations Anatomy and Physiology* by J.S. Ross
3. *Black Dance* by Lynne Fauley Emery
4. *Peggy Harper,* Discussion on Dance with K. Russell
5. *Black Dance*
6. *Black Dance*
7. *Peggy Harper*

01: *Ms. Greta Mendez displays some dynamic African dance steps during her presentation.* **02/03:** *Ms. Mendez shows an example of the well known European dance steps.*
Photos: *Lawson C. Lovell*

01

The Nationals Meetings

On the 28th July, 2010, the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission in London hosted the monthly nationals meeting. On the night, attendees were greeted with steel pan music upon entry played by Mr. Sean Clarke of Mangrooves Steel Orchestra. The Master of Ceromonies on the night was Ms. Deborah De Gazon in character as the Midnight Robber. The Midnight Robber welcomed and delivered the opening remarks to the nationals in traditional robber talk before introducing the first of the night's entertainment, Calypsonian Alexander De Great.

To everyone's delight, a Bell Arie Dance by Creative learning Circuit Company followed Alexander De Great's performance. Mr. Ansel Wong heaped accolades and thanked former Public Affairs, Culture and Toursim Attaché Mr. Ashton Ford, for his 'outstanding and invaluable conributions' during his tenure in the High Commission. Ms. Claudia Cupid who worked

closely with former Trade and Investment Attaché, Dionne Ligoure in the High Commission echoed similar words and paid glowing tributes to Ms. Ligoure. To close off the formal farewell tributes to staff, Ms. Bianca Walker, delivered a comprehensive and fitting commendation to H.E Serena Joseph-Harris former High Commissioner-designate.

Many nationals during the open forum segment thanked and showed much appreciation for the hard work and dedication to duties that each officer displayed in their post.

Gifts including a bouquet of flowers were presented to the officers. Mr. Ford in his address responded humbly and with gratitude. In addition, he said a few words of thanks on behalf of the Ms. Ligoure and Mrs. Joseph-Harris and urged nationals to continue to work togther to promote Trinidad and Tobago.

To the delight of the audience, a trio of calypsonians namely Alexander De Great, Tobago Crusoe and Alberto sang in a special collaborative performance to conclude the evening's proceedings.

Nationals Meeting in August

Acting High Commissioner for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Gail P. Guy, on 25th August 2010 announced to the nationals in attendence, her plan to retire on 29th September 2010. In her opening remarks, the Ag. High Commissioner also informed nationals of the various up-coming events in the months of August and September.

The book launch by Dr. Everard Phillips Ph. D., author of '*The Political Calypso: A Socio-Linguistic Process Of Conflict Transformation'*, followed the open floor segment. This book, Dr. Phillips said, takes research into the calypso art form to a new and much deeper dimension, showing how calypsonians are social actors in a theatre of emancipation.

There was a special guest apprearance by Trinidad Rio to close the night with his humorous calypso songs 'No Drawers' and 'Going Back To Basics'.

01: *Ms. Deborah De Gazon as 'the Midnight Robber'.* **02:** *Creative learning Circuit Company dancing the Bellarie Dance.* **03:** *Ag. High Commissioner Ms. Gail P. Guy is presented with an autographed copy of 'The Policatical Calypso: A Socio-Linguistic Process Of Conflict Transformation' from author Dr. Everard Phillips Ph.D.*
***Photos** : Lawson C. Lovell*

Calypso Rose pays a visit to The High Commission

World renowned Trinidad and Tobago calypsonian McArtha Linda Sandy-Lewis, better known as Calypso Rose, paid a visit to the High Commission on 6th September, 2010. The calypsonian has travelled around the world to sing some of the 800 calypsos she has produced since she began at the age of 15.

She is the recipient of the Hummingbird Medal, has four Road March titles and was named Ambassador to Libya after composing a calypso based on the experience of her visit there. Her calypsoes have invigorated people all over the world and, according to Calypso Rose, have helped initiate Carnival in Jamaica and Barbados, among other Caribbean islands.

Calypso Rose played a rhythmic tune on her guitar which she manoeuvred even though it missed a string. As soon as she uttered the words 'fire fire' the staff joined in to complete the line, 'in she wire wire.' Calypso Rose also played a few less familiar songs out of her massive, creative repertoire. She continues to send positive messages through her songs, keep politicians accountable, bring awareness to Trinidad and Tobago of important issues and put a smile on the faces of her fans, who tap their feet and sing along.

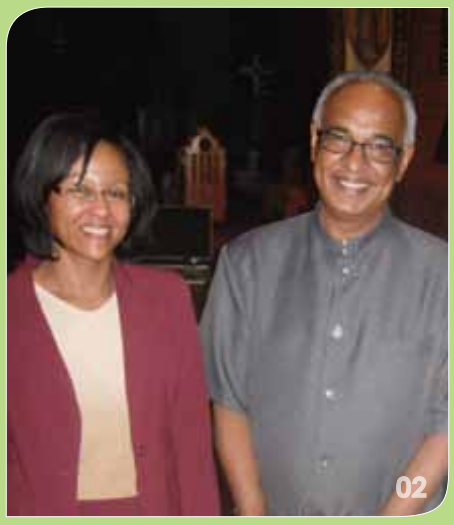
above: *Calypso Rose shows Ag. High Commissioner Ms. Gail P. Guy the broken string on her guitar.*
***Photos**: Lawson C. Lovell*

LIVE IN LONDON BISHOP ANSTEY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

The award winning Bishop Anstey Girls High School (BAHS) Choir from Trinidad and Tobago had the honour and privilege of being selected to compete in the 2010 Rhapsody's Children Music Festival in Vienna, Prague and Salzburg from 16th to 26th July, 2010.

The BAHS Choir's wide ranging repertoire includes Classical, Contemporary, West Indian Folk and Calypso as well as African and Indian music to reflect the multiculturalism of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

On their return journey home to Trinidad and Tobago from their European tour the BAHS gave a special performance in St. Margaret's Church, Streatham Hill in London for one night only on 27th July 2010.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Photos: Alafair Celestine

01

01: *Bishop Anstey High School Choir during their performance of a West Indian Folk song.* **02:** *Counsellor Ms. Roanna Gopaul with the event organiser Mr. Shuresh Rambaran.* **03:** *(from left) Director of Carivog International, London, Ms. Angela Cox, Miss Trinidad and Tobago UK 2010 Melanie Peterkin-Philip and The BAHS Choir Music Director, Ms. Lorraine Granderson.*

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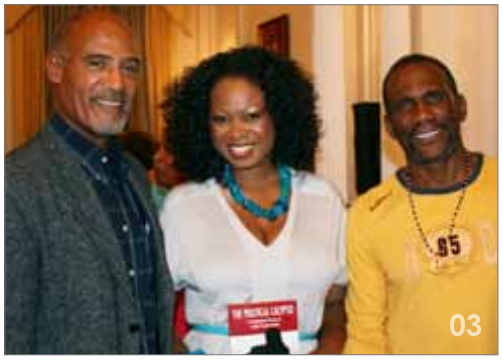
Deadline for recieving bids will be on 1st January, 2011.

Photo courtesy Dragons Carnival Band



UPCOMING EVENTS

01: *The Dragons Carnival Band with their costume potrayal Demeter.* **02:** *(from left) Tobago Crusoe, Alberto and Alexander De Great performing together at the nationals meeting in July.* **03:** *(from left) Author Dr. Everard Phillips Ph. D., Alafair Celestine and calypsonian Trinidad Rio.* **04:** *Trinidad and Tobago international footballer Brent Sancho came to say farewell to former Public Affairs, Culture and Tourism Attaché, Mr. Ashton Ford.* **05:** *Chart topping soca act Kes The Band featuring Kes Dieffenthaller performing in PoisonUK's '90º: The Carnival Concert' at The Troxy, London.* **Photos:** *Lawson C. Lovell, Keiron Victor Perez*

27th November
Eid-ul-Aldr Celebrations

Location:
High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, London.
Time: 2pm – 4pm
Please RSVP : **tthc@btconnect.com** by 25th November, 2010.

For information contact:
Ms. Beverley Awonaya - 020 7201 9686

10th December
Annual Students' Christmas Reception

Location:
High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, London.
Time: 5:30pm – 9pm
Please RSVP :
rmaharaj@tthclondon.org; ccupid@tthclondon.org by 30th November, 2010.
Door Prizes and talent competition prizes to be won

For information contact:
Mrs. Romaine Maharaj- 020 7201 9683
Ms. Claudia Cupid - 020 7201 9677

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42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT
Telephone: 020 7245 9351
Fax: 020 7823 1065

Website: www.tthighcommission.co.uk